

REMARKS

Applicant made further self-explanatory clarifying amendments to independent claim 1. No new matter is added.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102/103

To the extent that any art rejection may be applied to independent claim 1 (as amended), or to claims 2-8, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

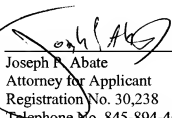
Applicant believes neither Lin nor Ito, whether or not applied, either singly or in combination, teaches, discloses or suggests “the PMOS device including a compressive layer inducing a compressive stress in an active region of the PMOS device in a direction longitudinal to a current direction” and “the NMOS device including a tensile layer inducing a tensile stress in an active region of the NMOS device in a direction longitudinal to the current direction”, let alone in combination with the remaining elements of claim 1 (as amended).

Support for the clarifications to claim 1 is found, for example, on page 2 (Disclosure of Invention), 2nd paragraph, and Fig. 4, of the application as filed.

Entry of this Amendment, reconsideration of claims 1-8, and allowance are solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By:  20 Feb 2007
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